



Lake Worth Lagoon E-News



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Winter 2010

WHAT WE'RE DOING

[Environmental Enhancement Status Reports](#)

[Environmental Times Newsletter](#)

[Project Fact Sheets](#)

GET INVOLVED

[Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative](#)

VOLUNTEER

[ERM Volunteer Events Calendar](#)

Thank You Lagoon Volunteers!

Go to [Volunteers in Action](#) to view photos.

LEARN ABOUT THE LAGOON

[Eastern Oyster Population Research in the Lagoon \(PDF\)](#)

Lake Worth Lagoon [Speakers Bureau](#)

ERM [Lake Worth Lagoon](#) web page

New Lagoon Publication Now Available

[Lake Worth Lagoon, Discover a Local Treasure](#) is a new 16-page publication that provides an overview of Lake Worth Lagoon, introduces the plants and animals found in the lagoon, and describes environmental restoration efforts. View the publication online or request a hard copy by contacting Alyssa Dodd, Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management, (561) 233-2400, ADodd@pbcgov.org.



Construction Underway for South Cove Natural Area

After years of planning and permitting the [South Cove Natural Area \(PDF\)](#) project began in August. Sand from several sources including a local Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) maintenance dredging project, local marina improvements, and the Juno Dunes Natural Area restoration project is being placed in the South Cove dredged hole. The placement of sand is capping fine-grained organic (muck) sediments that enter the lagoon primarily through stormwater runoff. Construction of the islands, oyster reefs, shoreline planters and boardwalk will likely begin in summer 2011. Project completion is anticipated in December 2011.



Public Use Facilities Planned for Snook Islands Natural Area

Early next year, construction will begin at the Snook Islands Natural Area. A boardwalk, fishing pier, day use docks for eight boats, and a floating kayak launch will be added to the existing habitat restoration project north of the Lake Worth Bridge. Construction will likely begin in February 2011. Project completion is anticipated in the fall of 2011.



[\\$2 million project aims to turn Lake Worth natural area into haven for fishing, paddling](#) (Willie Howard, The Palm Beach Post)

Manatee Season – November 15 through March 31

Endangered manatees are present in Palm Beach County year round. The population increases locally during the winter months because manatees are attracted by the warm weather in South Florida as water temperature drops in the north. Many migrate to the warm water discharge area of the Florida Power and Light (FPL) Riviera Beach Power Plant. [View the FPL live manatee webcam](#).



OTHER

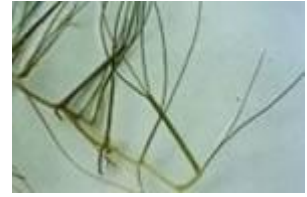
Registration now open for FREE [Loxahatchee River Watershed Science Symposium](#), March 29 & 30

CONTACT US

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All 7 Florida Seagrass Species Documented in Lake Worth Lagoon

It is widely known that Lake Worth Lagoon has 6 of the 7 Florida seagrass species. The 7th species of Florida seagrass, widgeon grass (*Ruppia maritima*), was recently documented at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park. Widgeon grass was found growing in three different areas in Lake Worth Lagoon at the park. Read more in the [Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park's Dune News](#).



New Education Center Under Construction at MacArthur Beach State Park

[The Pew Family Natural Science Education Center](#) is under construction at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park next to the existing Visitor Center. The new center will include a classroom, wet lab, library, gift shop, outdoor covered seating, and a new sea turtle exhibit. The facility, expected to be complete in the spring of 2011, will allow the park to expand environmental education to more area students. The Park is also constructing a 20 slip boat dock off Munyon Island which is expected to be completed in the spring of 2011.



Students Grow Mangroves in the Classroom

The *Mangroves in the Classroom* program, a new partnership between Kids Ecology Corps and the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management, engages students in efforts to restore and protect wildlife habitat in Lake Worth Lagoon and other coastal waters. Read more in [The Dahoon \(PDF\)](#), Newsletter of the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.



Volunteers Keep Munyon Island Clean

In September almost 100 volunteers participated in the International Coastal Cleanup event at Munyon Island in the Lake Worth Lagoon. The volunteers went after debris along the shoreline and lodged within red mangrove roots. They removed approximately 750 pounds of trash and 300 pounds of recyclables. [View event photos](#).



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Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

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